

Concord Ave Reconstruction – Questionnaire Results Summary

Executive Summary

- 76% (121/159 responses) Like It.
- Since the project has been completed responders indicated that, 48% walk more, 58% bike more, 26% drive less, and 14% use bus more.
- 42% say it is now easier to cross the street.
- 34% say that motorist safety is better (36% no change, 11% worse, 19% don't know), 78% say that cyclist safety is better, and 59% say pedestrian safety is better.
- 28% say that they would be more likely to bicycle with kids and family, with the raised cycle track in place. 30% commented that children are now safer after construction.
- There are several comments concerning safety at the Concord Ave/Spinelli St crosswalk w requests for a flasher, or traffic signal, or some approach to make the crosswalk safer for children and pedestrians.

General Project Questions

What is your overall view of the project?

Like It – 76% (121/159 responses)

Neutral – 13% (20/159)

Don't Like It – 11% (18/159)

Comments (66 comments received):

The majority of people who commented chose one of the following topics to comment on:

- 35% (23/66) of people enjoy the new bike lanes and pedestrian access
- 10% (7/66) of people think traffic is more congested
- 27% (18/66) of people think there should be a flasher or traffic light at the Concord @ Spinelli intersection for children's & pedestrian's safety to access the Fayerweather St. School and businesses.

What did you like best about the project? Why (122 comments received)

The majority of people who commented chose one of the following topics they liked the best:

- 77% (94/122) of people said they liked the new bike lanes and pedestrian access
- 5% (6/122) of people said they liked each of the following topics:

- o The signage and lights on the road
- o The new pavement
- o The aesthetic and atmosphere of the road
- o The ease of use of the new road

What did you like least about the project? Why (111 comments received)

The majority of people who commented chose one of the following topics they didn't like:

- 22% (24/111) said the absence of a traffic light at the intersection of Spinelli and Concord (Fayerweather Street School)
- 35% (39/111) said delays, traffic, and other disruptions due to construction
- 11% (12/111) said the loss of a lane makes the road more congested
- 14% (15/111) said the westbound cycle track is in conflict with the road and the pedestrians

How do you think the City handled the construction phase of this project?

Comments:

Positive – 84% (76/91)

Negative – 16% (15/91)

The majority of people who commented positively liked:

- Communication about updates in construction

The majority of people who commented negatively did not like:

- The duration of the entire construction phase

Would you like to see more projects like this around Cambridge?

Yes – 71% (100/140)

No – 11% (16/140)

Don't Know – 17% (24/140)

Comments (46 comments received):

The majority of people who said "yes" and commented would like to see more cycle tracks throughout the city.

The majority of people who said "no" and commented are concerned about the safety of people using the cycle lanes, because cars frequently travel up onto the cycle track.

General Usage and Traveling on Concord Avenue

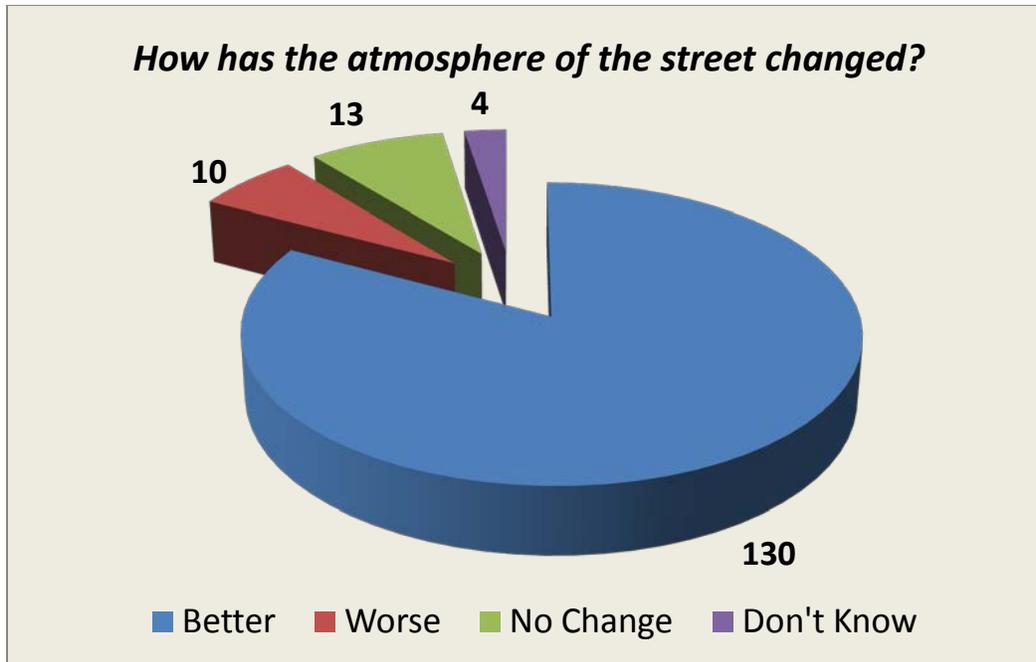
How do you think the overall atmosphere/look of the street has changed?

Better – 83% (130/157)

Worse – 6% (10/157)

No Change – 8% (13/157)

Don't Know – 3% (4/157)



Comments:

The majority of people who commented wrote on the following:

- Thought the project made the street safer
- Improved the atmosphere and aesthetic of the road

How do you use the street? (Multiple Selection Question)

- Drive – 88% (139/158)
- Walk – 70% (111/158)
- Bike – 53% (85/158)
- Bus – 39% (62/158)
- Other – 5% (8/158)

“Other” responses included activities such as pushing a stroller or exercising along the road.

Have you changed the way you travel on Concord Avenue after the construction?

- Yes – 49% (68/140)
- No – 51% (72/140)

Walking

- Walk More – 48% (50/105)
- Walk Less – 0% (0/105)
- No Change – 52% (55/105)

Bicycling

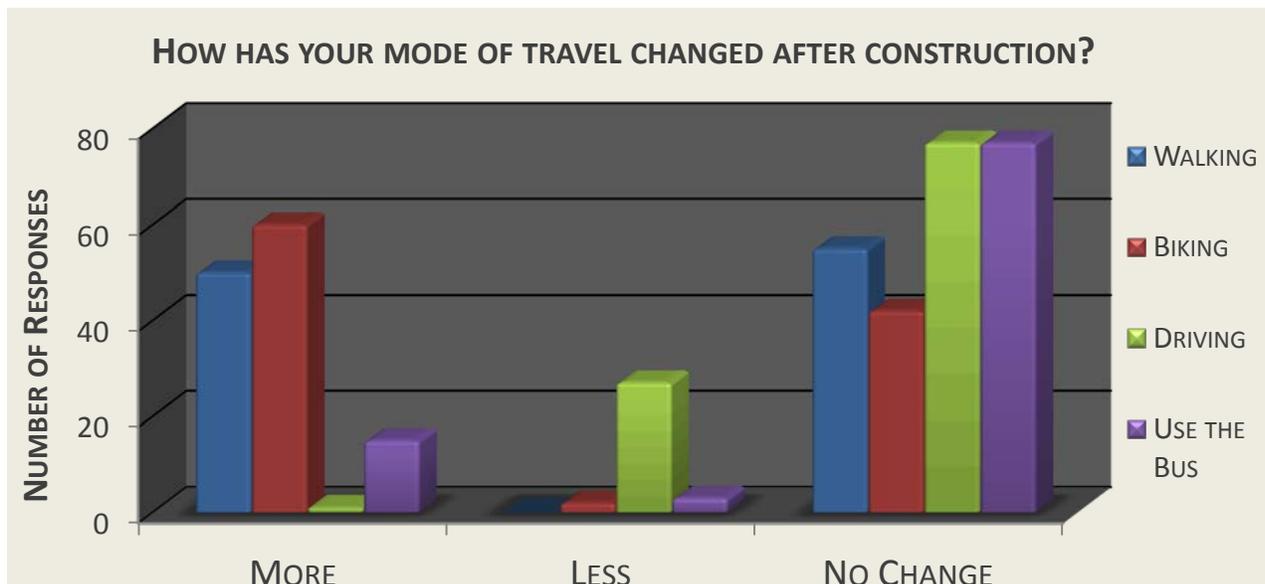
- Bike More – 58% (58/104)
- Bike Less – 2% (2/104)
- No Change – 40% (42/104)

Driving

Drive More – 1% (1/105)
Drive Less – 26% (17/105)
No Change – 73% (77/105)

Public Transportation

Use the Bus More – 14% (15/105)
Use the Bus Less – 3% (3/105)
No Change – 73% (77/105)



When trying to cross the street as a pedestrian, have you found it is:

Easier – 42% (59/142)
More Difficult – 20% (28/142)
Unchanged – 38% (55/142)

Comments (72 comments received)

- About half said it is easier to cross with the addition of traffic lights
- The other half said the lights help, but cars still don't slow down enough
- The majority of people (57% or 41 out of the 72 who commented, 29% 41/142 of total responders to this question) who commented made a note about the intersection of Spinelli Place at Concord Ave where the crossing is especially dangerous and could use a traffic light or method to stop vehicles.

Does the existence of bike facilities separated from traffic- including cycle tracks like along Concord Avenue or paths like along Fresh Pond Pkwy- affect your decision to ride your bike? (Multiple Selection Question)

More Likely to Bike – 72% (104/145)
Less Likely to Bike – 3% (4/145)
No Change in Biking – 24% (35/145)

Biking more with kids and family – 28% (40/145)

Would bike more if network was more complete – 25% (36/145)

Comments (36 received)

- About 31% (11/36) thought the project was safer for cyclists
- About 33% (12/36) think the project makes Concord Ave more dangerous for cyclists
 - o Of those 12, 7 commented that the westbound (i.e. northern side) was more dangerous to bike on and almost impossible to make left turns.
- About 17% (6/36) commented saying they would use the bike lanes if the network was more complete around the city.

Safety Questions

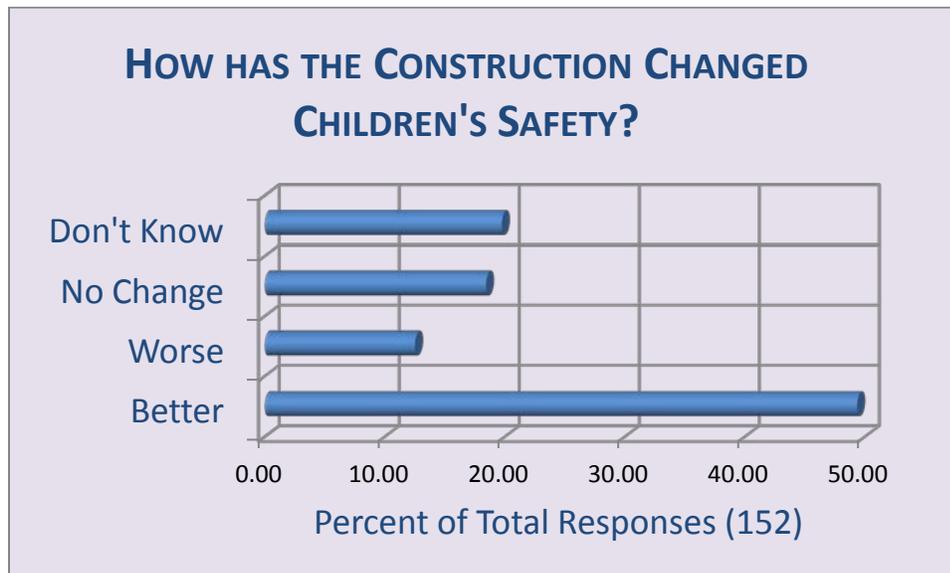
How do you think the project has affected the safety of children?

Better – 49% (75/152)

Worse – 13% (19/152)

No Change – 18% (28/152)

Don't Know – 20% (30/152)



Optional Comments:

People who responded to this question (58 total responses):

- About 60% (33/58) felt there needs to be some way of stopping traffic for pedestrians at the intersection of Spinelli Place and Concord Avenue.
- About 30% (16/58) of people who commented felt children were safer after construction.
-

How do you think the project has affected the safety of pedestrians?

Better – 59% (92/155)

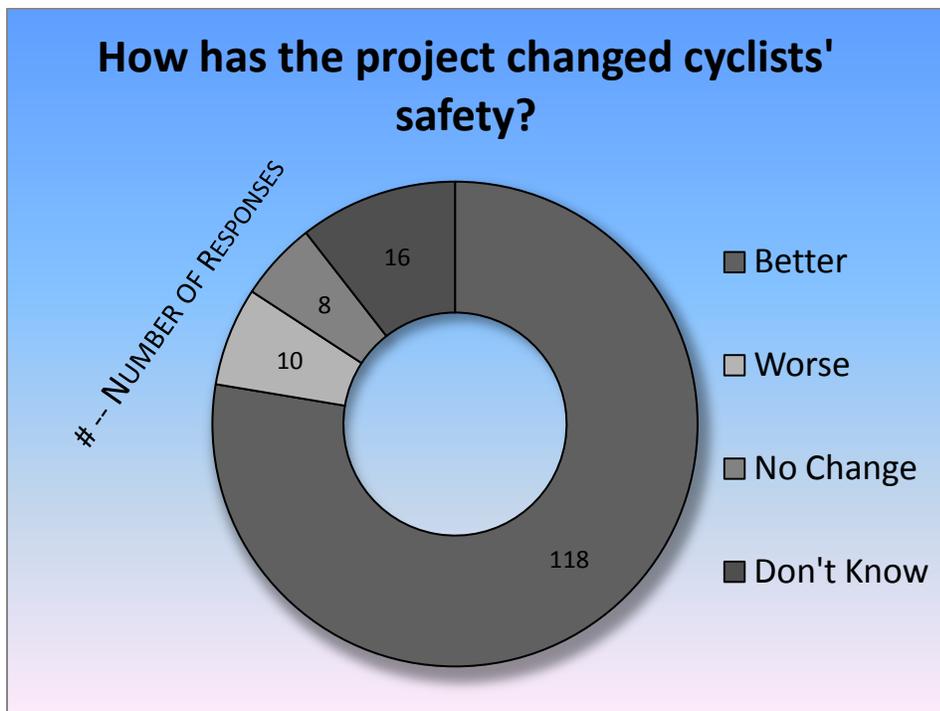
Worse – 12% (18/155)
No Change – 17% (27/155)
Don't Know – 12% (18/155)

Optional Comments (45 comments received)

- Drivers do not stop for pedestrians at lights (8/45 or 18%)
- Pedestrians obstruct bike lanes (7/45 or 16%)
- Need crosswalk lights at Spinelli (22/45 or 49%)

How do you think the project has affected the safety of bicyclists?

Better – 78% (118/152)
Worse – 7% (10/152)
No Change – 5% (8/152)
Don't Know – 10% (16/152)



Optional Comments (28 comments received)

- More bike and pedestrian conflicts; especially around bus stops (18% (5/28) of people who responded)
- Need additional lights and signage (11% (3/28) of people who responded)
- The majority (57% or 16/28) of people who commented felt the cycle tracks make cyclists safer.

How do you think the project has affected the safety of motorists?

Better – 34% (51/151)
Worse – 11% (17/151)
No Change – 36% (54/151)
Don't Know – 19% (29/151)

Optional Comments (29 comments received)

- Lanes are too narrow (17% (5/29) who commented)
- Safer (28% (8/29) who commented)
- Safety remains unchanged (21% (6/29) who commented)
- traffic is more congested (17%, (5/29) who commented)

How do you think the project has affected the traffic speed?

Increased – 10% (16/162)
Decreased – 20% (33/162)
No Change – 47% (76/162)
Don't Know – 23% (37/162)

Optional Comments

- 36% (10/28) said they felt traffic was slower and more congested
- 39% (11/28) said traffic is traveling at higher speeds at straight-aways
- 11% (3/28) responded that the project made traffic better

Optional Contact and Other Information

Do you reside in Cambridge?

Yes – 53% (83/156)
No – 47% (73/156)

Do you have children that live in your home?

Yes – 63% (99/156)
No – 37% (57/156)

Do you own a car?

Yes – 90% (134/149)
No – 10% (15/149)

What is your gender?

Male – 42% (64/151)
Female – 58% (87/151)

What is your age?

Under 21 – 0% (0/150)	36-55 – 64% (96/150)	
22-35 – 12% (18/150)	56-70 – 21% (32/150)	Over 70 – 3% (4/150)

Overall Notes:

Numbers in parenthesis are (how many responses we received for the particular answer / the total number of responses we received for that question). There were 162 total responses to the survey.

Only similar comments reported multiple times have been reported in this results summary.